



## 18th Maccabiah a resounding success

The cricket tournament of the 18th Maccabiah Games held last month were a resounding success. South Africa successfully defended their gold medals in both the senior and youth tournaments. India sent a much stronger team than the one which lost all their games at the 2005 Maccabiah, defeating

Israel, Australia and Great Britain to reach the final where an undefeated 83 from Adam Bacher was the difference between them winning gold. Israel defeated Australia to win the bronze medal for the first time since 1997. Great Britain, who defeated Israel in the round-robin stage, suffered a major batting collapse against Australia which was to cost them a place in the top four, losing out on run rate. The youth tournament began with an excellent win for Israel over Great Britain, but although the Israelis put in a respectable performance in losing their second match to South Africa, they faded thereafter whilst Great Britain managed to earn themselves a shot at gold with a fantastic win over the fancied South Africans in the round-robin stage. The final turned out to be a rather one-sided game with South Africa winning by seven wickets. India's star left-handed opening batsman Bension Sagawker was named Player of the Tournament having scored 210 runs at an average of 42. South African all-rounder Adam Maserow was named Player of Tournament amongst the juniors. Hadar Yosef and Lod hosted most of the matches, with Kibbutz Gezer hosting two youth matches as well, whilst Maccabiah cricket was enjoyed in Be'er Sheva for the first time, hosting the youth Twenty20.



## Maccabiah in



pictures...



India v GB, Lod



Israel youth team

Kibbutz Gezer



Hadar Yosef 1



Indian team, silver medalists

## Nets at Hadar Yosef re-opened in presence of Ziff family

During the recent Maccabiah Games, the Hadar Yosef nets, which were totally refurbished last year thanks to the kind generosity of the Ziff family, were re-opened by Margarie Ziff in the presence of members her family, ICA Chairman



Adam Bacher



SA juniors celebrate a wicket



Maccabiah comes to Be'er Sheva



Israel seniors with their bronze medal



Adam Bacher collects winner's trophy

Speaking at the ceremony, Michael Ziff said that the giving was the easy part, doing the hard work was more difficult and thanked Stanley and all those involved with cricket in Israel for the effort they put in in ensuring the continuation of the game in Israel.

## U19's kick off busy summer of European cricket [Follow the action live on www.icc-europe.org](http://www.icc-europe.org)

For the first time ever, Israel will be participating in three European tournaments in one season. The U19's visit Antwerp, Belgium, the U15's play in Bologna, Italy whilst the seniors will be traveling to La Manga, Spain.

**U19's (3 – 9 August):** Similar to the squad that finished fourth in last year's U17 tournament. Safania Nagavkar and Shai Hayun, both with experience in the senior team, together with Gabi Schachat and Nir Dokarker, both of whom were in good form during the Maccabiah, will be expected to score the bulk of the runs. Sagi Razpurker and Avishai Satamker get their first taste of international competition, with all the rest of the team having played in previous European youth tournaments. Isaac Samson (manager) and Herschel Gutman (coach) will accompany the team.

**U15's (16 – 21 August):** A very young team has been selected, primarily based on players from Be'er Sheva who have been introduced to cricket through the ICA development program. The team has been practicing hard and most of the players visited Cyprus as part of an U13 tour last year so have some experience playing abroad. George Sheader (manager) and Herschel Gutman (coach) will accompany the squad.

**Seniors (31 August – 6 September):** In a clear policy move towards youth, the squad is easily the youngest ever selected. All-rounder Gabi Schachat, player of the tournament at last years ECC U17 Championships and a consistent performer in the league, as well as Nir Dokarker, a left-handed middle order batsmen who impressed with two half centuries for the youth team during the Maccabiah, have both been included in the senior squad for the first time. Opening batsman Safania Nagavkar, the third of the U19's in the team, keeps his place in the squad despite failing to impress in either of his outings in the Maccabiah. The Ashdod pair of Raymond Aston and Yaniv Razpurker, so impressive during the Maccabiah, will be expected to form the backbone of the top order, together with Adrian Vard who was Israel's most reliable batsman, and the talented Danny Hotz and Eshkol Solomon. Amongst the bowlers, Isaac Talkar returns after injury to add some pace to an otherwise steady seam attack including David Massil and Eliezer Samson. The most notable absentee from the team is Isaac Massil, who after years of excellent service to the national team as the team's leading all-rounder has been omitted as the selectors prefer to give opportunities to younger players. Commenting on the team, captain/coach Herschel Gutman said, 'I think the selectors have taken bold decisions putting their confidence in young players,